



Visiting artist Sir Shadow at the Oranjestad Kuinsthuis this week!
The art of “flowetry” premieres in Aruba during the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival

Aruba had not only honor of being host to some of the great names of jazz this past weekend during the first Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival, but also to visual artist, a “Master of Flow,” Sir Shadow, from New York City.

Sir Shadow was featured along with the works of a number of fine local artists during an exposition sponsored by the New India Insurance Company of Aruba. Gilbert Senchi, curator of the Oranjestad Kuinsthuis Art Gallery across from Fort Zoutman, organized the collection along with Caresse Isings, and they recruited Sir Shadow, a noted author from New York, whose work embodies the same spirit of improvisation and rhythm that is so often associated with jazz. Sir Shadow appropriately has dubbed his work “flowetry” because he regularly combines his single line drawings with his insightful poetry to create witty and thoughtful pieces. An evening spent in the exposition room of the Cas di Cultura was almost as interesting as the concerts, as Sir Shadow entertained by proving to be an accomplished piano player, and also a master of scat, which he was inclined to intone while creating personalized art for his audience.

“What is your favorite instrument?” inquired Sir Shadow of Aruba’s Minister of Culture, Ramon Lee, and then proceeded to create a jazz themed line drawing of silver on black art paper just for him. Sir Shadow will continue demonstrating his talent during his weeklong stay with a special presentation at the Oranjestad Kuinsthuis on Wednesday and Friday evening, during their regular “Happy Hours.”

“I call my writing and artwork flowetry, which is the art of positive thing in action. This is my contribution towards life and my immortality,” expresses Sir Shadow “This gives me the right to live my moments in peace and harmony” Sir Shadow’s peaceful and harmonious artwork and poetry can be further explored on his website: www.sirshadow.com. Books of his artwork and philosophy have been published, in which he encourages others to “grow and glow,” and will be available for study at the Oranjestad Kuinsthuis along with his works and the pieces of the other artists from the jazz exposition through September 10. For more information on the collection and exhibition times, contact Gilbert Senci at telephone #563-4574 or 588-ARTE (2783.)

Island artists participating in the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival exposition included Eduardo and Adolpho Valbuena, Geerda van Leeuwen, Winston Davis, Ryan Oduber, Mo Mohammad, Belinda de Veer, Jani Croes, Stan Kuiperi, Frank Graaf and others, among them newcomer to Aruban expositions, Joost Howard. This young graphic artist made a splash with this first show by having his work snapped up by Anneke Lampe, Country Manager for American Airlines, one of the festival sponsors.

Many of the artists will be on hand during Wednesday’s opening devoted to Sir Shadow, to discuss their work. “I believe we are all trees,” asserts Sir Shadow, “ and art is the fruit of our positive deds that bring about inner peace, which is the foundation of a positive human being.” Do not miss this opportunity to participate in some “positive thinking” with some of Aruba’s best artists this coming week!